

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent Number: US 7,031,343 B1
Application Number: 09/715,275
Date Patent Issued: April 18, 2006
Name of Patentee: Jerchen Kuo, et al.
Name of Inventor(s): Jerchen Kuo, Dumitru Gruia, Glen Kramer, Gerry Pesavento
Assignee: Alloptic, Inc., Livermore, CA (US)
Title of Invention: POINT-TO-MULTIPOINT PASSIVE OPTICAL
NETWORK THAT UTILIZES VARIABLE-LENGTH
PACKETS
Attorney Docket No.: A0638.003

To: Commissioner for Patents
Office of Patent Publication
ATTN: Certificate of Correction Branch
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION UNDER
37 C.F.R. §1.323 AND 35 U.S.C. §255**

Patentee respectfully requests that a Certificate of Correction be issued for U.S. Patent No. US 7,031,343 B1 issued April 18, 2006. Upon reviewing the claims in the printed patent, the patentee noted that the following typographical error, which was not the fault of the Patent and Trademark Office, appears in the subject patent and the exact page and line number should be corrected as follows:

Column 11

Line 13: please change "downstream" to --upstream--

The typographical error occurred in a response to an Office Action, as described on page 3 of this Request. This error was made in good faith and unintentionally changed the word "upstream" to "downstream". The correction does not involve such changes in the patent as would constitute new matter or would require reexamination.

The following is the current claim 1, as published in the subject patent:

Claim 1, as published:

What is claimed is:

1. A point-to-multipoint optical communications system comprising: an optical line terminal (OLT); and a plurality of optical network units (ONUs) connected to said OLT by a passive optical network in which downstream data is transmitted from said OLT to said ONUs over said passive optical network and upstream data is transmitted from said ONUs to said OLT over said passive optical network: said OLT transmitting downstream data over said passive optical network in variable-length downstream packets; said ONUs transmitting **downstream** data over said passive optical network within ONU-specific time slots utilizing time division multiplexing, wherein said ONU-specific time slots are filled with multiple variable-length upstream packets; said OLT includes: a fragment buffer for storing packet fragments that have been transmitted upstream from said ONUs; and fragment logic for: identifying said end-of-packet-fragment code of said first packet fragment; buffering said first packet fragment in said OLT fragment buffer; identifying said start-of-packet-fragment code of said first packet fragment; reconstructing said variable-length upstream packet from said first and second packet fragments; said ONUs include: fragment buffers for storing packet fragments that are to be transmitted upstream from said ONUs; and fragment logic for: splitting a variable-length upstream packet into first and second packet fragments; and adding an end-of-packet-fragment code to said first packet fragment and adding a start-of-packet-fragment code to said second packet fragment.

The word "downstream" (in bold) is a typographical error. The word should be "upstream".

Applicant's May 6, 2003 amendment introduced the new claim 73 (claim 1). The "upstream" reference, which is in question, is highlighted below. Claim 73 in this amendment correctly reads as follows:

73. **(new)** A point-to-multipoint optical communications system comprising:

...

said OLT transmitting downstream data over said passive optical network in variable-length downstream packets.

said ONUs transmitting **upstream** data over said passive optical network within ONU-specific time slots utilizing time division multiplexing, wherein said ONU-specific time slots are filled with multiple variable-length upstream packets...

Then Applicant filed a September 14, 2005 amendment, which was the last amendment prior to publication, referencing Claim 73 as "previously added". However, in that amendment, the word "upstream" was unintentionally changed to "downstream" as highlighted below.

73. **(previously added)** A point-to-multipoint optical communications system comprising:

...

said OLT transmitting downstream data over said passive optical network in variable-length downstream packets;

said ONUs transmitting **downstream** data over said passive optical network within ONU-specific time slots utilizing time division multiplexing, wherein said ONU-specific time slots are filled with multiple variable-length upstream packets;

The Applicant did not intend to amend the claim to change the term to "downstream". In fact, Applicant referenced the claim as "previously added", meaning that the claim was intended to be the same claim that was previously added in Applicant's May 6, 2003 Amendment, which

had the term "upstream". The distinction is an important one, and is critical to the meaning of the claim.

Transmitted herewith is a Certificate of Correction to correct the mistake(s) shown on the attached Form PTO/SB/44.

The \$100.00 fee for the Certificate of Correction is being paid electronically.

Patentees' undersigned attorney may be reached by telephone at (925) 460-3700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.


Issuance of a Certificate of Correction containing the correction is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 11, 2007

Randick O'Dea & Tooliatos, LLP

By:



John Nielsen
Patent Counsel for Patentees
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CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

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PATENT NO. : US 7,031,343

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INVENTOR(S) : Jerchen Kuo, Dumitru Gruia, Glen Kramer, Gerry Pesavento

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Column 11

Line 13, please change "downstream" to --upstream--

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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